

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Specification

Paragraph 0031 of the specification is amended to correct typographical errors in which "RAM" has been amended to read --ram--.

Paragraph 37 has likewise been amended to replace a serial number with issued Patent Number 6,626,245.

Claim Rejections -35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 12 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Townsend. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Townsend teaches well drilling equipment which may be used to remove a drill pipe from the well as taught at page 2, line 81-page 3, line 22. However, Townsend does not teach or suggest the structure called for in claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 12 and 18. Contrary to the position taken by the Office Action, guide sleeve 18 cannot be moved vertically within a wellbore since it is limited in reciprocal movement between a bottom and top end of cylinder 12. The drill pipe 50 can be moved vertically within the wellbore, but Townsend neither teaches nor suggests the universal adapter stack bottom end for connecting to the tubular 50 or a swivel joint with a union adapter as called for by claim 1.

The rejection of claims 1 and 2 is thereby traversed.

With respect to claim 9, Townsend fails to teach or suggest a tool support structure comprising an adapter stack bottom end for secure connection to the tubular via one of a swivel joint, a tool including the tubular, and an adapter for connecting to the tubular.

The rejection of claims 9, 10 and 12 is thereby traversed.

With respect to claim 18, the same argument applies in that Townsend fails to teach or suggest the union adapter connected to the bottom side of the control plate in fluid communication with a fluid passage, the union adapter providing a secure connection to the tubular.

The rejection of claim 18 is thereby traversed.

Claim Rejections -35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Townsend in view of Thrupp. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

As explained above in detail, Townsend fails to teach or suggest the claimed structure. Thrupp fails to mention gussets, and the reference to gussets at 31 is inferred. In any event, the combination of claims 1, 4 and 5 is neither taught nor suggested by the combination of Townsend and Thrupp. The rejection of claim 5 is thereby traversed.

The Office Action rejected claim 19 as being unpatentable over Townsend in view of McLeod. For at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 18, Townsend fails to teach or suggest the structure claimed in claim 19. Claim 19, which depends from claim 18, recites further limitations and is allowable in its respective combination.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of claims 13-17. Applicant also gratefully acknowledges that claims 3, 4, 6-8, 11 and 20 were objected to but would have been allowable if rewritten in independent form.

However, for reasons set forth above in detail, each of claims 1-20 that remain pending in this application are considered to be in a condition for allowance.

The claims have been carefully reviewed and amended for purposes of clarification.

In claim 1 "the high pressure well" is replaced with --the wellbore-- for proper antecedent.

Claim 5 is amended to depend from claim 4 to provide antecedent for "the elongated sidewall".

Claim 6 is amended to correct a lack of antecedent for "control plate".

Claim 7 is amended to depend from claim 6 and to eliminate redundancy.

Claim 9 is amended to correct a lack of antecedent for "the piston cylinders" (first occurrence) and to correctly refer to the second occurrence of the piston cylinders. As well, "from above" is deleted with reference to a bottom of the tool support structure to improve clarity.

Claim 12 is amended to delete a redundant first occurrence of "seal".

Claim 13 is amended to correct "the interior passage way" to read --the axial passage--; and, to correct "the well" to read --the wellbore-- for proper antecedent.

Claim 15 is amended to correct the punctuation.

Claim 17 is amended to provide antecedent for "top end."

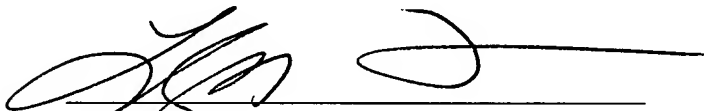
Claim 18 is amended to correctly characterise the control plate as --including a fluid passage-- rather than "supporting a fluid passage" and to insert "adapter" after a second occurrence of "union" in line 15.

Claim 20 is amended to correct the spelling of "tabulur" to read --tubular--.

In view of these amendments, this application is now considered to be in a condition for immediate allowance. Favourable reconsideration and early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lloyd G. Farr', is written over a horizontal line.

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